

In the Claims:

Please cancel ending claims 11-34, and add new claims 35-54, as shown in the Listing of Claims below. This Listing of Claims is a complete listing of all claims ever presented and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application. The new claims add no new matter.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-34 (cancelled)

Claim 35 (New): A cosmetic composition comprising

(A) one or more cosmetically active ingredients;
(B) a mixture of isomeric esters of citric acid, the mixtures containing esters corresponding to the formula III



in which R', R'', R''', independently, represent a hydrogen atom, a C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group, or an ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group, the ethoxylated alkyl group containing 2 to 20 parts ethylene oxide per alkyl group, with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R', R'' and R''' represents such an ethoxylated alkyl group, wherein the ratio by weight of a C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups to ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups in the mixture is from 10:1 to 1:1.

Claim 36 New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group of component (B) contains 2 to 10 parts ethylene oxide per alkyl group.

Claim 37 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group is a C₁₂₋₁₈ alkyl group.

Claim 38 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group of the ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group is a C₁₂₋₁₈ alkyl group.

Claim 39 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the ratio of the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups to the ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups is from 4:1 to 1:1

Claim 40 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the ratio of monoesters to diesters in the mixtures component (B) is from 1:1 to 2:1.

Claim 41 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, further comprising an alkyl ether sulfate, an alkyl oligoglycoside, a fatty alcohol ethoxylate, a fatty alcohol, or mixtures thereof and water.

Claim 42 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 41, wherein the fatty alcohol is a technical C₁₂₋₁₈ alcohol.

Claim 43 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 41, wherein the fatty alcohol ethoxylate has the formula II



in which R² is a linear or branched alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms and n is an integer of 1 to 10.

Claim 44 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, further comprising an alkyl ether sulfate of formula V



in which R^4 is a linear or branched alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms, m is a number of 1 to 10 and X is an alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal, ammonium, alkylammonium, alkanolammonium or gluc ammonium and water.

Claim 45 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 35, further comprising an alkyl and alkenyl oligoglycoside of formula IV



where R^3 is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10 and water.

Claim 46 (New): A cosmetic composition according to claim 45, wherein the ratio by weight of the alkyl and alkenyl oligoglycoside to the isomeric esters of citric acid is from 3:1 to 1:3.

Claim 47 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition comprising

- (A) one or more cosmetically active ingredients;
- (B) a mixture of isomeric esters of citric acid, the mixtures containing esters corresponding to the formula III



in which R' , R'' , R''' , independently, represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{6-22} alkyl group, or an ethoxylated C_{6-22} alkyl group, the ethoxylated alkyl group containing 2 to 20 parts ethylene oxide per alkyl group, with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R' , R'' and R''' represents such an ethoxylated alkyl group, wherein the ratio by weight of C_{6-22} alkyl groups to ethoxylated C_{6-22} alkyl groups in the mixture is from 10:1 to 1:1; and

- (C) an alkyl ether sulfate of formula V



in which R^4 is a linear or branched alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms, m is a number of 1 to 10 and X is an alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal, ammonium, alkylammonium, alkanolammonium or glucammonium.

Claim 48 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 47, wherein the C_{6-22} alkyl group and the C_{6-22} alkyl group of the ethoxylated C_{6-22} alkyl group are each a C_{12-18} alkyl group.

Claim 49 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 47, wherein the ratio of C_{6-22} alkyl groups to ethoxylated C_{6-22} alkyl groups is from 4:1 to 1:1

Claim 50 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 47, wherein the ratio of mono-esters to diesters in the mixture of component (B) is from 1:1 to 2:1.

Claim 51 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition comprising

(A) one or more cosmetically active ingredients;

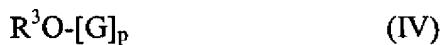
(B) a mixture of isomeric esters of citric acid, the mixtures containing esters corresponding to the formula III



in which R' , R'' , R''' , independently, represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{6-22} alkyl group, or an ethoxylated C_{6-22} alkyl group, the ethoxylated alkyl group containing 2 to 20 parts ethylene oxide per alkyl group, with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R' , R'' and R''' represents

such an ethoxylated alkyl group, wherein the ratio by weight of C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups to ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups in the mixture is from 10:1 to 1:1; and

(C) an alkyl and alkenyl oligoglycoside of formula IV



where R³ is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10.

Claim 52 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 51, wherein the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group and the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group of the ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl group are each a C₁₂₋₁₈ alkyl group.

Claim 53 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 51, wherein the ratio of the C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups to ethoxylated C₆₋₂₂ alkyl groups is from 4:1 to 1:1.

Claim 54 (New): An aqueous cosmetic composition according to claim 51, wherein the ratio of mono-esters to diesters in the mixture of component (B) is from 1:1 to 2:1.